

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: TADASHI MASUDA

Serial No.: New

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Filed: December 28, 2001

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For : WIPER ASSEMBLY FOR VEHICLE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to or concurrent with calculation of the filing fees, please amend this application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Applicant has attached to this Amendment documents entitled "Marked-up Copy of the Previous Claims" and "Amended Claims". Please replace present claim 4 in this application with amended claim 4 shown in the document entitled "Amended Claims". Please add new claims 5-6 as shown in the document entitled "Amended Claims".

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested prior to or concurrent with calculation of the filing fees. This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to remove the multiple dependent claims to avoid the surcharge.

Examination on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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Table 1. Demographic characteristics of the study population	
Age (years)	Mean (SD)
Male	55.2 (10.5)
Female	56.8 (11.2)
Education (years)	Mean (SD)
Male	12.5 (2.1)
Female	12.8 (2.3)
Marital status	
Married	78%
Single	22%
Occupation	
Professional	35%
Managerial	25%
Skilled	20%
Unskilled	20%
Retired	10%
Income (USD/month)	Mean (SD)
Male	1,200 (300)
Female	1,150 (280)
Health insurance	
Yes	85%
No	15%
Smoking status	
Smoker	30%
Non-smoker	70%
Alcohol consumption	
Regular	10%
Occasional	20%
Never	70%
Comorbidities	
Hypertension	45%
Diabetes	25%
Cholesterol	35%
Asthma	15%
Depression	20%
Medication use	
Antidepressants	30%
Antipsychotics	15%
Mood stabilizers	10%
Other	45%

4. The vehicle wiper assembly of [any one of claim 1 to claim 3] claim 1, wherein each of said first weak point and said second weak point having low rupture strength is provided in the vicinity of a vehicle fixing section of a pivot holder for rotatably supporting a pivot shaft for attaching a base end section of the wiper arm.

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AMENDED CLAIMS

4. The vehicle wiper assembly of claim 1, wherein each of said first weak point and said second weak point having low rupture strength is provided in the vicinity of a vehicle fixing section of a pivot holder for rotatably supporting a pivot shaft for attaching a base end section of the wiper arm.

5. (New) The vehicle wiper assembly of claim 2, wherein each of said first weak point and said second weak point having low rupture strength is provided in the vicinity of a vehicle fixing section of a pivot holder for rotatably supporting a pivot shaft for attaching a base end section of the wiper arm.

6. (New) The vehicle wiper assembly of claim 3, wherein each of said first weak point and said second weak point having low rupture strength is provided in the vicinity of a vehicle fixing section of a pivot holder for rotatably supporting a pivot shaft for attaching a base end section of the wiper arm.

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